

Friends,

At this week's Governor & Council meeting, the state Department of Transportation reported that a critical study of the Capitol Corridor rail project was nearing completion (and under budget by \$1 million+). The final draft will be released before December 31st, but here's a sneak peak:

CAPITOL CORRIDOR RAIL STUDY PROJECTIONS

- 5,600 new permanent jobs created through economic development boost
- Additionally, 3,400 new construction jobs and 3,600 new homes/units built.
- Total new costs to NH of \$7 million/year (includes construction & net operation costs)
- Ridership of 668,000/year
- 70% of capital costs and 91% of operating costs would be covered by federal, Massachusetts rail, or passenger revenue.
- Above figures are for the route which would provide maximum economic development impact, with stops in South Nashua, Nashua, Manchester airport, and the Manchester millyard. Travel time to Boston South Station ranging from ~1 – 1.5 hours.
- Routes ending in Nashua and Concord were also considered, as well as expanded Bus routes (though all had noticeably less job creation per dollar of state costs).

I attended the final public meeting in Nashua and the public response was overwhelmingly positive from a standing-room only crowd. The draft released later this month will be final information for the Nashua and Manchester options; because the Concord option would be on Amtrack, not MBTA, that route requires one final review by federal regulators and will be finalized in early 2015.

- [Good article summarizing it here](#)
- [Full DOT presentation available here](#)

At the meeting Wednesday, the Executive Council approved 91 items including several of regional or statewide importance:

IN CENTRAL NH: A \$10,000 donation for care of Winslow State Park at Mt. Kearsarge, in memory of longtime park employee Dolly Conron; and \$500k in federal funding for community antipoverty programs by the Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Program.

IN MONADNOCK & WESTERN NH: Amending wage rates in an existing FAST forward grant with Antioch University to develop a sustainable care system for children with serious emotional, mental, and/or behavioral health issues; \$425k in federal funding for community antipoverty programs by Southwestern Community Services; and a new conservation easement on 361 acres in Stoddard.

IN STRAFFORD CO: Updating a coastal viewer web tool developed by UNH; \$447k in federal funding for community antipoverty programs by the Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Program; and a \$20 mm contract to complete rebuilding and widening of the Spaulding Turnpike bridge over Little Bay (\$7 million under budget); and a contract to complete the Great Bay Pollution Tracking & Accounting pilot project.

STRAFFORD NOTE: The NH Dept. of Transportation is considering its plans to replace the bridge carrying Rt. 4 over Bunker Creek in Durham. To further this along, they have asked me for three members of a Highway Layout Commission who can help facilitate a public hearing this fall on the

matter, in order to ensure local input. This work is supported by the professional staff of the NH Department of Transportation, so it usually is not an intensive work project for the three members of the public who volunteer. Typically, members are reimbursed for mileage as well as a modest per diem. If you are able to help, please send me your address and phone number.

STATEWIDE ISSUES: Independent review of the Lakeview Center in Effingham; final design contracts for I-93 expansion from Salem to Manchester; a short extension of formal completion for the Capitol Corridor Rail study, as mentioned above; a \$125k compensation grant to Manchester Police Officer Dan Doherty who was shot 5 times in the line of duty and suffered permanent damage to internal organs; and an economic development grant for the expansion and new year-round operation of Polly's Pancakes in Sugar Hill, NH (ok, that last one may not be a true 'statewide' project, but their breakfast is worth a trip from anywhere in NH).

APPOINTMENTS: 18 nominees were confirmed to state posts including Roger Hawk (by a vote of 3-2) & Patty Weathersby (5-0) to the Site Evaluation Committee, Martin Honigberg to Chair the Public Utilities Commission, and Vicky Cimino as Director of Travel & Tourism.

19 appointments were made and will be up for a vote next meeting, including Mike Vlacich and Joe Marone to the University System Board of Trustees, David Gelinis to the Lottery Commission, Rachel Whitaker to the Site Evaluation Committee, Nick Soggu to the Pre-Engineering Technology Advisory Council, and Dick Anagnost to the Business Finance Authority.

Additional detail on all these items is below, as well as a link to full contracts and documentation for each.

The next meeting is on TUESDAY, Dec 23 in Concord. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let me know via email at cvanostern@nh.gov or by calling me at (603) 290-5848.

Sincerely,
Colin
Executive Councilor, District 2

[FULL 12/3 AGENDA](#)
(or follow the links below for documentation of each item)

FULL INFORMATION

1. DETAIL: CENTRAL NH

[#B](#). Authorized the Division of Parks and Recreation to accept a \$10,000 donation from The Burton D. Morgan Foundation under its President's Initiative Grant program, to be used for the care and maintenance of Winslow State Park in memory of Dolly Conron, a longtime and dedicated employee at the park.

[#16](#) Authorized to enter into **sole source** agreements with five vendors as detailed in letter dated November 7, 2014, for the provision of community based services and antipoverty programs through the Community Services Block Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$4,018,617. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2015. **100% Federal Funds.**

2. DETAIL: MONADNOCK REGION

[#A.](#) Authorized to amend an existing **sole source** agreement with Antioch University New England, Keene, NH, (originally approved by G& Con 7-10-13, item #38), by adjusting certain budget line items for State Fiscal Year 2015 in order to meet specified needs. Effective through the original end date of June 30, 2015. **No Additional Funding. 100% Federal Funds.**

[#16](#) Authorized to enter into **sole source** agreements with five vendors as detailed in letter dated November 7, 2014, for the provision of community based services and antipoverty programs through the Community Services Block Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$4,018,617. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2015. **100% Federal Funds.**

[#62](#) Authorized to award an Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund grant to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Concord, NH, in the amount of \$15,000 to acquire a conservation easement on a parcel of land totaling 361 acres in Stoddard. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2015. **100% Aquatic Resource Mitigation Funds.**

3. DETAIL: STRAFFORD COUNTY

[#B.](#) Authorized to amend an existing **sole source** agreement with the University of NH, Sponsored Programs Administration, Durham, NH, (originally approved by G&C on 12-20-13, item #83), to develop a Coastal Viewer web-based tool box with new coastal resiliency data visualization and query tools, by extending the completion date to September 30, 2015 from March 31, 2015. **No Additional Funding. 100% Federal Funds.**

[#16](#) Authorized to enter into **sole source** agreements with five vendors as detailed in letter dated November 7, 2014, for the provision of community based services and antipoverty programs through the Community Services Block Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$4,018,617. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2015. **100% Federal Funds.**

[#24](#) Authorized the Bureau of Construction to enter into a contract with R.S. Audley Inc., Bow, NH, for rehabilitation and widening of the existing bridge carrying the Spaulding Turnpike over Little Bay in Newington and Dover, on the basis of a low bid of \$20,444,479.01. (2) Further Authorized a contingency in the amount of \$613,334.37 for payment of latent conditions which may appear during the construction of the project. Effective upon G&C approval through September 15, 2017. **100% Turnpike Funds.**

[#65](#) Authorized to enter in to a **sole source** agreement with the University of NH, Durham, NH, to complete the Great Bay Pollution Tracking and Accounting Pilot Project, to provide assistance to communities on documenting pollutant load reductions towards achieving water quality goals, in the amount of \$22,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2016. **100% Federal Funds.**

4. STATEWIDE PROJECTS AND POLICIES

[#14](#) Authorized to enter into a **sole source** agreement with Kathryn du Pree, Old Lyme, CT, to provide professional services and conduct a review of the Lakeview Neurorehabilitation Center Inc., Effingham, NH and of the State's licensing and oversight systems of the facility and its residents in an amount not to

exceed \$28,200. Effective upon G&C approval through February 28, 2015. **50% General, 50% Federal Funds.**

[#31](#) Authorized the Bureau of Highway Design to amend a contract with Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc., New York, NY and Manchester, NH (originally approved by G&C on 2-20-13, item #88), to complete the final design of the roadway and bridges comprising the northern section of the Salem-Manchester I-93 improvement project beginning in the Town of Windham and ending in the City of Manchester, by increasing the total amount by \$975,664.17 from \$9,358,904.06 to \$10,334,568.23. Effective upon G&C approval through the original date of February 28, 2018. **100% Other Funds.**

[#32](#) Authorized the Bureau of Rail & Transit to enter into a contract amendment with URS Corporation, Salem NH And San Francisco, CA (originally approved by G&C on 2-6-13, item #75), for a two-part study of the Boston, MA to Concord, NH rail corridor (NH Capitol Corridor), by extending the completion date from December 31, 2014 to March 31, 2015. Effective upon G&C approval. No Additional Funding.

[#37](#) Authorized to award a grant to the County of Grafton, Haverhill, NH, in the amount of \$184,000 for the purpose of providing funds to the Grafton County Economic Development Council to assist Polly's Pancake Parlor Inc., with its business expansion project. Effective December 3, 2014 through June 30, 2016. **100% Federal Funds.**

[#44A](#) Authorized to disburse to Officer Daniel Doherty, Manchester, NH, as compensation for permanent loss of use of internal organs at less than 100%, in the amount of \$125,000 as a result of Officer Doherty's gunshot injuries incurred in the line of duty on March 21, 2012. Effective upon G&C approval. **100% General Funds.**

5. DETAIL: APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS

(* = District 2 Resident)

New Nominations by Governor Hassan:

Appellate Board

Thomas P. Mullins, Peterborough, NH

Athletic Trainers Governing Board

Andrew S. York, Mont Vernon, NH

Business Finance Authority

Dick Anagnost, Bedford, NH

Board of Home Inspectors

Joseph M. Griffin, Goffstown, NH

Commission for Human Rights

Sarah L. Browning, Manchester, NH

Lakes Management Advisory Committee

Mary D. Truell, Meredith, NH

Lottery Commission

David Gelinis, Manchester, NH

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board

James L. Baird, Claremont, NH

Midwifery Council

Sherry A. Stevens, Meredith, NH

Ports and Harbors Advisory Council

Donald J. Coker, Strafford, NH*

Pre-Engineering Technology Advisory Council

Nick Soggu, Bedford, NH

Respiratory Care Practitioners Governing Board

Sarah L. Stone, Alstead, NH*

Rivers Management Advisory Committee

Kenneth D. Kimball, Jackson, NH

Site Evaluation Committee

Rachel E.D. Whitaker, Dummer, NH

University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees

Joseph G. Morone, Portsmouth, NH

Michael A. Vlacich, Concord, NH*

Water Well Board

Kelly M. Dobrowolski, Kingston, NH

Steven Garside, Henniker, NH*

Water Council

Deborah L. Hinds, Boscawen, NH*

Confirmed by the Council:

Executive Branch Ethics Committee

Dorothy E. Graham (d), Manchester, NH

NH Housing Finance Authority

Connie Boyles Lane, Concord, NH*

Joint Promotional Program Screening Committee

George C. Pappas, Portsmouth, NH

Director of Administration at the Department of Justice

Kathleen B. Carr, Chichester, NH

Board of Registration of Medical Technicians

William B. Clutterbuck, Bedford, NH

Cynthia A. Gray, Derry, NH

Arthur W. Yan, Auburn, NH

New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

Thomas P. Ballesterio, Madbury, NH*

Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission

Martin P. Honigberg, Concord, NH*

Director of Travel and Tourism at the Department of Resources and Economic Development

Victoria Cimino, New York, NY

NH Retirement System Board of Trustees

Julia N. Griffin, Hanover, NH

Rivers Management Advisory Committee

Michele L. Tremblay, Boscawen, NH*

Site Evaluation Committee

Roger C. Hawk, Concord, NH*

Patricia M. Weathersby, Rye, NH

Volunteer NH Board of Directors

Renee V. Perreault, Deerfield, NH

Gregory S. Stephens, Manchester, NH

Water Council

Malcolm R. Butler, Hillsboro, NH

Wetlands Council

Robert N. Snelling, Holderness, NH

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